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SUBJECT: GOE MISSING TRADE OPPORTUNITIES WITH U.S., ISRAEL

REF: 08CAIRO2409 Classified By: Econ-Political Minister-Counselor Donald Blome for reasons 1.4(b) and (d)

- 1.(C) Key points: -A former Ministry of Trade and Industry (MOTI) consultant studied several possible FTA's for the GOE, and concluded that only
- 2.(C) On December 20, EconOff discussed Egyptian trade policy with Dr. Arne Klau, a former WTO trade policy specialist. Klau recently worked as
- 3.(C) The only country that Klau recommended to MOTI for an FTA was Israel, which Klau concluded could offer major economic benefits to Egypt.
- 4.(SBU) Klau also studied the U.S. Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) program for MOTI, and found that many Egyptian exporters were failing
- 5.(C) Comment: Dr. Klau's assessment that Egypt will not benefit from these potential FTA's underscores the difficulty the GOE will face in br